कर्मीय ग्रेड के कोककर कोयले के उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने के लिए निम्नलिखित कदम उठाए हैं:—

1. कोककर कोयले के स्रोतों का पुन-स्थापन करना जिसे पहले क्वालिटी के आधार पर विच्छेद कर दिया गया था ।

2. विद्यमान कोककर कोयले की धोवन शालाओं का संशोधन ।

3. दामोदर घाटी निगम से प्रत्यक्ष प्रोषण, प्रत्यक्ष प्रबंध करके धोवन शालाओं में बिजली की सप्लाई बढ़ाना ।

4. निजी जिला उत्पादन इकाइयों की स्थापना ।

5. विद्यमान खानों के कच्चे कोयले का उत्पादन बढ़ाना तथा नई परि-योजनाओं के विकास संबंधी कार्य की शुरू करना ।

Price and distribution control of Steel

1521. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an editoriol published in the 'Indian Express' dated 11th April, 1992 captioned "Messy Steel Scene" with regard to conflicting signal emanating from the Steel Ministry's policies on steel pricing and distribution controls ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to increase the steel prices and as per new distribution policy working on according priority to house construction, small-scale industries and the corporate sector ; and

(d) if so, what was the logic behind the steel price decontrol earlier and now bringing back the regime of price and distribution control in some form or the other and how far it is in tune with the declared objectives/ policies of Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No conflicting signals have emanated from the policy of deregulation of price and partial deregulation of distribution of Iron and Steel.

(c) After announcement of deregulation on 16th January, 1992, the main producers are free to determine and announce their own prices.

With regard to distribution, priority continues to be given for supplies to Defence, Railways, exporters of engineering goods, small scale industries sector and the north-eastern States, at prices to be announced by the main producers from time to time. It is for the main producers to work out the detailed guidelines.

(d) Now there is complete price deregulation. Regarding distribution, only supply protection is assured to the five specified sectors. This is in tune with the declared overall policy and objective of the Government.

Steel Plants in Orissa

1522. SHRI CHANDRA MOHAN SINHA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of steel plants which have been proposed by the Government of Orissa during the Eighth Plan period ;

(b) how many of them are mini-steel plants ; and

(c) whether the location of them has been settled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) According to information received from the Government of Orissa, a Memorandum of Understanding